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IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re Application of: Shi, et al.

Art Unit: Not Yet Assigned

Serial No.: 10/666,002

Examiner: Not Yet Assigned

Filed: 9/17/03

For: **AN ETCHING METHOD USED IN FABRICATIONS OF MICROSTRUCTURES**

INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT
PURSUANT TO 37 CFR 1.97(b)

Commissioner for Patents
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Sir:

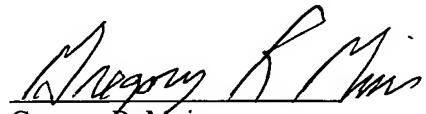
The attention of the Patent and Trademark Office is hereby directed to the documents listed on the attached PTO Form 1449. Copies of the cited references are enclosed.

No fee or certification is required in connection with this Information Disclosure Statement, since it is being submitted prior to the last of (1) issuance of a first official action on the merits and (2) expiration of the three month period following filing of the above-captioned application.

The above information is presented so that the Patent and Trademark Office can determine any materiality thereof to the claimed invention. It is respectfully requested that the information be considered during the prosecution of this application and that the cited documents be listed on the front page of any patent issuing from this application.

The Patent Office is authorized to charge our Deposit Account No. 501516 for any fee which it deems to be required to effect consideration of this statement.

Respectfully submitted,



Gregory R. Muir
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Substitute for form 1449A/PTO

INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT BY APPLICANT

(use as many sheets as necessary)

Sheet **1** of **6**

Complete if Known

Application Number	10/666,002
Filing Date	9/17/03
First Named Inventor	Shi
Art Unit	Not Yet Assigned
Examiner Name	Not Yet Assigned

Attorney Docket Number **P120-US**

U.S. PATENT DOCUMENTS

Examiner Initials*	Cite No. ¹	Document Number	Publication Date MM-DD-YYYY	Name of Patentee or Applicant of Cited Document	Pages, Columns, Lines, Where Relevant Passages or Relevant Figures Appear
		Number - Kind Code ² (if known)			
		US- 3,511,727	05-12-1970	Hays, R.G.	
		US- 4,190,488	02-26-1980	Winters, H.F.	
		US- 4,310,380	12-12-1982	Flamm et al.	
		US- 4,498,953	02-12-1985	Cook et al.	
		US- 6,051,503	04-18-2000	Bhardwai, J.K.	
		US- 6,436,229	08-20-2002	Tai et al.	
		US- 6,162,367	12-19-2000	Tai et al.	
		US- 6,290,864 B1	09-18-2001	Patel et al.	
		US- 6,355,181 B1	03-12-2002	McQuarrie, A.D.	
		US- 2001/0002663 A1	06-07-2001	Tai et al.	
		US- 5,439,553	08-08-1995	Grant et al.	
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		US- 2002/0196524 A1	12-26-2002	Huibers, et al.	
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		US- 2002/0121502 A1	09-15-2002	Patel, et al.	
		US- 5,835,256	11-10-1998	Huibers, A.	
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FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS

Examiner Initials*	Cite No. ¹	Foreign Patent Document	Publication Date MM-DD-YYYY	Name of Patentee or Applicant of Cited Document	Pages, Columns, Lines, Where Relevant Passages or Relevant Figures Appear	T ⁶
		Country Code ³ -Number ⁴ - Kind Code ⁵ (if known)				
		EP-0704884-A2	04-03-1996	Mehta, J.		
		EP-0822582-A2	02-04-1998	Bhardwai, J.K.		
		EP-0822584-A2	04-04-1998	Bhardwai, J.K.		
		WO-99/49506	09-30-1999	McQuarrie, A.D.		
		EP-0878824-A2	11-18-1998	McQuarrie et al.		
		EP-0878824-A3	01-19-2000	McQuarrie et al.		
		JP-1982/57098679-A	06-18-1982	Tsunetoshi, A.		
		JP-1983/58130529-A	08-04-1983	Yoshihiro et al.		
		JP-1985/60057938-A	04-03-1985	Katsumi et al.		
		WO-98/32163	07-23-1998	Tai et al.		

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INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT BY APPLICANT <i>(use as many sheets as necessary)</i>				Application Number	10/666,002
Sheet	2	of	6	Filing Date	9/17/03
				First Named Inventor	Shi
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				Attorney Docket Number	P120-US

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		US- 6,409,876 B1	06-25-2002	McQuarrie, et al.	
		US- 6,396,619 B1	05-28-2002	Huibers, et al.	
		US- 6,576,489 B2	06/10/03	Leung, et al.	
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		US- 2002/0164879 A1	11/07/02	Leung, et al.	
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		US- 6,197,610 B1	03/06/2001	Toda	
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		US- 4,551,197	11/05/85	Guilmette, et al.	
		US- 6,296,864	9/18/01+	Patel, et al.	
		US- 2004/0069747	4/15/04	Patel, et al.	
		US- 2002/0195423	12/26/02	Patel, et al.	
		US- 2004/0035821	2/26/04	Doan, et al.	
		US-			

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Examiner Initials	Cite No. ¹	Foreign Patent Document Country Code ³ -Number ⁴ - Kind Code ⁵ (if known)	Publication Date MM-DD-YYYY	Name of Patentee or Applicant of Cited Document	Pages, Columns, Lines, Where Relevant Passages or Relevant Figures Appear
		JP-1997/09251981-A	09-22-1997	Kazuaki et al.	
		JP-1998/10313128-A	11-24-1998	Hannin et al.	
		JP-1998/10317169-A	12-02-1998	McQuarrie et al.	
		JP-1986/61187238-A	08-20-1986	Nobuo et al.	
		JP-1986/61270830-A	12-01-1986	Toru, T.	
		JP-1987/62071217-A	04-01-1987	Toru, et al.	
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		JP-1986/61053732-A	03-17-1986	Arata et al.	
		JP-1986/61134019-A	06-21-1986	Shinji et al.	
		JP-1986/61181131-A	08-13-1986	Shinji et al.	

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				Art Unit	Not Yet Assigned
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Sheet	3	of	6	Attorney Docket Number	

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Substitute for form 1449B/PTO

**INFORMATION DISCLOSURE
STATEMENT BY APPLICANT**

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Sheet 4 of 6

Complete if Known

Application Number	10/666,002
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First Named Inventor	Shi
Group Art Unit	Not Yet Assigned
Examiner Name	Not Yet Assigned

Attorney Docket Number P120-US

**OTHER PRIOR ART -- NON PATENT LITERATURE DOCUMENTS**

Examiner Initials	Cite No. ¹	Include name of the author (in CAPITAL LETTERS), title of the article (when appropriate), title of the item (book, magazine, journal, serial, symposium, catalog, etc.), date, page(s), volume-issue number(s), publisher, city and/or country where published	T ²
		ALIEV et al., "Development of Si(100) Surface Roughness at the Initial Stage of Etching in F2 and XeF2 Gases Ellipsometric Study", Surface Science 442 (1999), pp. 206-214.	
		GLIDEMEISTER, J.M., "Xenon Difluoride Etching System" (Nov. 17, 1997).	
		HABUKA et al., "Dominant Overall Chemical Reaction in a Chlorine Trifluoride-Silicon-Nitrogen System at Atmospheric Pressure", Japan Journal of Applied Physics Vol. 38 (1999), pp. 6466-6469.	
		HECHT et al., "A Novel X-ray Photoelectron Spectroscopy Study of the Al/SiO ₂ Interface", J. Appl. Phys. Vol. 57 (June 15, 1985), pp. 5256-5261.	
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		IBBOTSON et al., "Plasmaless Dry Etching of Silicon with Fluorine-containing Compounds", J. Appl. Phys. Vol. 56 No. 10 (Nov. 1984), pp. 2939-2942.	
		IBBOTSON et al., "Comparison of XeF ₂ and F-atom Reactions with Si and SiO ₂ ", Applied Physics Letter, Vol. 44, 1129 (1984).	
		STRELLER et al., "Selectivity in Dry Etching of Si (100) and XeF ₂ and VUV Light", Elsevier Science B.V., Applied Surface Science Vol. 106 (1996), pp. 341-346.	
		VUGTS et al., "Si/XeF ₂ Etching: Temperature Dependence", J. Vac. Sci. Technol. A 14(5) (Sep/Oct 1996), pp. 2766-2774.	
		WINTERS, H.F., "Etch Products from the Reaction of XeF ₂ with SiO ₂ , SiO ₃ , Si ₃ N ₄ , SiC, and Si in the Presence of Ion Bombardment", J. Vac. Sci. Technol. B 1(4) (Oct/Dec 1983), pp. 927-931.	

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Sheet	5	of	6	Attorney Docket Number P120-US	

OTHER PRIOR ART – NON PATENT LITERATURE DOCUMENTS

Examiner Initials*	Cite No. ¹	Include name of the author (in CAPITAL LETTERS), title of the article (when appropriate), title of the item (book, magazine, journal, serial, symposium, catalog, etc.), date, page(s), volume-issue number(s) publisher city and/or country where published	T ²
		Kurt Williams, Etch Rates for Micromachining Processing-Part II, 2003 IEEE, Pgs 761-778, Journal of Microelectromechanical Systems, Vol. 12, No. 6, December 2003.	
		WINTERS et al., "The Etching of Silicon with XeF ₂ Vapor", Appl. Phys. Letter, Vol. 34(1) (January 1, 1979), pp. 70-73.	
		XACTIX, Inc., Marketing Brochure (June 27, 1999).	
		"Xenon Difluoride Isotropic Etch System: Seeing is Believing", Surface Technology Systems Ltd. brochure, Newport, UK (date unknown).	
		CHU et al., "Controlled Pulse-Etching with Xenon Difluoride", International Solid State Sensors and Actuators Conference (Transducers '97), Chicago, IL, Vol. 1 (June 16 - 19, 1997), pp. 665-668 (abstract only).	
		BASSOM et al., "Modeling and Optimizing XeF ₂ -enhanced FIB Milling of Silicon", 25th International Symposium for Testing and Failure Analysis, Santa Clara, CA (Nov. 14 -18, 1999), pp. 255-261 (abstract only).	
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		CHAN et al., "Gas Phase Pulse Etching of Silicon for MEMS with Xenon Difluoride", Engineering Solutions for the Next Millennium: 1999 IEEE Canadian Conference on Electrical and Computer Engineering, Edmonton, Alberta, Vol. 3 (May 9 - 12, 1999), pp. 1637-1642 (abstract only).	
		CHANG et al., "Gas-Phase Silicon Micromachining with Silicon Difluoride", Proceedings of the SPIE - The International Society for Optical Engineering, Vol. 2641 (1995), pp. 117-128 (abstract only).	

Examiner Signature		Date Considered	
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				Filing Date	9/17/03
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Sheet	6	of	6	Attorney Docket Number	P120-US

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